

16 JUL 1954

REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1954

Issued by the Government Statistician (Mr. R. J. Little), Perth

2nd July, 1954

This report gives particulars relative to the following items:-

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POPULATION ESTIMATES

Whole State at 31st March, 1954 -

Males - 328,735

Females - 308,694

Persons - 637,429

Metropolitan Area at 31st December, 1953 -

Persons - 358,000

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS - WESTERN AUSTRALIA

	APRIL		4 Months Ended APRIL	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
Marriages - Number	546	543	1,956	1,847
*Rate per 1000 of Population	10.42	10.68	9.36	9.11
Births - Number	1,383	1,308	5,131	5,313
*Rate per 1000 of Population	26.40	25.73	24.56	26.20
Deaths - Number	398	372	1,561	1,486
*Rate per 1000 of Population	7.60	7.32	7.47	7.33
Infant - Number	25	26	99	129
Mortality - *Rate per 1000 Live Births	18.08	19.88	19.29	24.28
PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH -				
Tuberculosis	3	2	9	17
Malignant neoplasms	60	63	261	254
Diabetes mellitus	2	1	13	11
Diseases of blood etc.	3	1	10	5
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	43	42	180	147
Diseases of the heart	135	91	455	424
Hypertension with heart disease	9	10	40	42
Hypertensive disease without mention of heart	5	8	22	25
Arteriosclerosis	10	18	50	49
Influenza	1	-	1	2
Pneumonia	16	12	45	43
Bronchitis	1	4	8	10
Other respiratory disease	1	1	16	7
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	8	6	18	16
Gastro-enteritis and colitis	2	1	13	10
Chronic enteritis and ulcerative colitis	-	-	4	3
Cirrhosis of the liver	-	1	3	5
Nephritis and nephrosis	7	9	24	19
Diseases of the prostate	5	4	10	12
Maternal causes	3	1	4	4
Diseases of early infancy	20	15	61	77
Motor Vehicle accidents	12	18	50	62
Other accidents	14	17	82	76
Suicide	3	4	23	16
All other causes	35	43	159	150
Total.	398	372	1,561	1,486

* Equivalent Annual Rate

* Deaths under one year.

LAND SETTLEMENT

Land taken up under conditional alienation during the five months ended May, 1954 totalled 465,354 acres, a decrease of 81,224 acres on the corresponding period last year. Pastoral, special and miscellaneous leases registered amounted to 1,574,421 acres, an increase of 73,507.

STATE GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

	Month of MAY		Eleven Months Ended MAY	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
	£.	£.	£.	£.
Revenue	4,134,215	3,738,060	37,766,450	34,203,313
Revenue per Head of Population	£6. 9. 7	£6. 0. 7	£59. 18. 0	£55. 19. 7
Expenditure	3,657,044	3,491,636	38,780,647	35,497,987
Expenditure per Head of Population	£5. 14. 8	£5. 12. 8	£61. 10. 2	£58. 2. 0

SAVINGS BANKS

Depositors' Balances on the 31st May, 1954 amounted to £51,665,066 or £80.18.4d. per head of population as against £48,602,749 or £78. 6. 1d. per head as at the 31st May last year.

BANK CLEARANCES

The average weekly clearance for the 4 weeks ended 26th May, 1954 amounted to £14,259,815 compared with £12,355,900 for the corresponding period last year.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Registrations effected at the Office of Land Titles and Deeds		MAY		11 Months ended MAY	
		1954	1953	1954	1953
Transfers	No.	2,176	2,067	22,445	18,957
	£.	3,603,547	2,860,379	33,543,981	22,790,369
Mortgages	No.	1,822	1,646	18,520	14,246
	£.	3,205,745	2,307,437	29,793,895	20,501,104
Discharges of Mortgages	No.	1,112	1,102	11,992	10,195

SALES TAX: SALES OF TAXABLE AND EXEMPT GOODS

AND TAX COLLECTED

Period of Receipt of Returns	Taxable Goods		Sales of Exempt Goods	Tax Collected
	Sales in respect of which Tax is Payable (Net)	Sales in respect of which Tax is NOT Payable (Gross)		
	£.	£.	£.	£.
Eleven months ended MAY, 1954	38,181,029	23,556,568	89,215,570	5,375,752
Eleven months ended MAY, 1953	32,239,091	23,559,014	76,033,767	4,894,718
Month of MAY, 1954	4,459,503	1,943,358	10,305,086	508,875
Month of MAY, 1953	3,188,223	2,333,852	6,696,093	453,514

COMPANIES REGISTERED

170 Local Companies with a nominal capital of £13,205,003 and 72 Foreign Companies were registered during the eleven months ended May, 1954. Registrations for the corresponding period last year comprised 106 Local Companies with a nominal capital of £6,124,600 and 58 Foreign Companies.

BANKRUPTCY

	Eleven months ended MAY					
	1954			1953		
	No.	Liabilities	Assets	No.	Liabilities	Assets
		£.	£.		£.	£.
Sequestration Orders	47	133,718	97,205	35	124,594	61,597
Deeds of Assignment (a)	21	89,503	105,097	23	165,066	192,712
Deeds of Arrangement	-	-	-	-	-	-

(a) Includes Compositions and Schemes of Arrangement.

TRANSPORT

The operations of the State Government Railways, open for General and Passenger traffic, were as follows:-

	APRIL		10 Months Ended APRIL	
	1954	1953	1954	1953 /
Gross Earnings (a) * £.	1,030,435	848,700	9,329,535	6,403,900
Working Expenses (a) £.	1,149,663	1,135,969	11,361,798	9,979,680
Train Miles Run No.	610,345	565,502	5,972,505	4,111,588
Motor Bus Miles Run No.	(b) 138,920	(b) 157,858	(c) 1,520,685	(c) 1,624,829
<u>Passenger Journeys -</u>				
Train No.	652,542	565,415	7,041,687	4,820,735
Motor Bus No.	39,120	50,401	457,779	529,680
<u>Tonnage Carried -</u>				
Paying Goods	268,175	270,016	2,520,101	1,972,244
Livestock	7,511	9,224	108,097	113,450
Departmental (Free Freight)	81,143	65,616	665,642	519,968
<u>Total.</u>	356,229	344,856	3,293,840	2,605,662
<u>Net Ton Mileage of -</u>				
Paying Goods	45,670,566	43,980,678	429,448,488	309,479,604
Livestock	68,534	1,024,800	14,041,513	14,315,182
Departmental (Free Freight)	10,547,488	7,999,718	91,896,644	70,074,389
<u>Total.</u>	57,086,588	53,005,196	535,386,645	393,869,175

(a) Includes operations of the Railway Road Service.

(b) Four weeks ended 3rd April.

(c) Period ended 3rd April.

* Figures liable to revision.

- Figures reflect Metal Trade Strike.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

(1) NEW VEHICLES REGISTERED (EXCLUDING COMMONWEALTH-OWNED VEHICLES)

	METROPOLITAN AREA				ENTIRE STATE			
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Year 1951	4,263	2,088	51	1,886	7,914	5,730	101	3,192
Year 1952	4,088	2,006	74	1,121	8,068	5,471	112	1,939
Year 1953	4,460	1,869	57	746	8,152	5,015	76	1,239
1954 -								
January	384	126	11	68	669	337	13	108
February	409	191	5	66	724	461	8	102
March	405	176	3	70	724	476	4	113
April	516	166	7	77	907	453	9	129

(2) MOTOR VEHICLES IN USE (EFFECTIVE REGISTRATIONS) /

Date (as at end of Month)	METROPOLITAN AREA				ENTIRE STATE			
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1952 -								
June	37,873	16,368	522	9,952	64,180	50,897	988	16,041
1953 -								
June	41,231	18,394	537	9,855	69,833	54,639	1,035	15,559
December	44,513	19,429	567	9,817	73,825	55,782	1,071	15,022
1954 -								
January	44,889	19,556	577	9,798	73,329	54,141	1,022	14,345
February	45,135	19,687	583	9,787	74,505	55,735	1,086	14,727
March	45,339	19,726	585	9,757	75,443	56,628	1,093	14,963
April	45,790	19,862	591	9,767	76,142	56,760	1,099	14,892

/ Excluding Commonwealth-Owned Vehicles which comprised for April, 1954:-
106 Cars; 752 Wagons, Vans, etc.; 7 Buses and 6 Motor Cycles.

TRADE (INTERSTATE AND OVERSEA)

Trade of Western Australia, April 1954 and 1953, and ten months ended April 1954 and 1953, expressed in terms of Australian Currency:-

	IMPORTS				EXPORTS (Including Ships' Stores)			
	APRIL		10 Months ended APRIL		APRIL		10 Months ended APRIL	
	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
Oversea	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000
Interstate	4,630	3,000	34,947	25,339	5,783	9,101	62,971	76,239
	8,845	5,710	68,092	55,423	1,200	2,149	16,072	20,631
Total.	13,475	8,710	103,039	80,762	6,983	11,250	79,043	96,870

BUILDING ACTIVITY
(1) NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED

Period	Dwellings				Factories		Other		Total	
	Owner-Built		By Contractors etc. (a)							
	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value
		£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000
Year 1946	55	32	1,316	1,221	52	82	145	192	1,568	1,527
Year 1947	165	109	2,245	2,380	37	64	164	327	2,611	2,880
Year 1948	514	346	2,544	3,041	49	160	268	431	3,375	3,978
Year 1949	825	693	2,485	3,476	57	215	317	657	3,684	5,041
Year 1950	1,313	1,365	3,331	4,727	41	263	428	651	5,113	7,006
Year 1951	1,913	2,835	4,137	6,969	40	459	433	986	6,523	11,249
Year 1952	2,883	5,824	4,946	11,201	63	667	604	2,242	8,496	19,934
Year 1953	2,988	7,219	4,839	12,624	84	817	714	3,657	8,625	24,317
1954 - March Qr.	715	1,827	944	2,491	22	313	163	990	1,844	5,621

(a) Comprises Government Day Labour as well as Private Contractor operations, and includes Shop Dwellings, Flats and other Residentials excluded from Table (2) hereunder.

(2) HOUSE CONSTRUCTION
(Including Owner-Built Homes)

Houses Completed - Classified According to Materials of Outer Walls										
	Brick, Stone, Concrete, etc.		Wood, or Mainly Wood		Fibro-Cement or mainly Fibro-Cement		Other Material		Total	
	No.	Value £,000	No.	Value £,000	No.	Value £,000	No.	Value £,000	No.	Value £,000
Year 1946	578	640	186	140	373	296	227	172	1,364	1,248
Year 1947	1,114	1,365	257	196	966	862	62	47	2,399	2,470
Year 1948	1,252	1,715	326	249	1,436	1,348	29	22	3,043	3,334
Year 1949	1,449	2,235	228	191	1,571	1,649	42	43	3,290	4,118
Year 1950	1,709	2,882	337	311	2,262	2,572	55	48	4,363	5,813
Year 1951	2,155	4,560	53	525	2,933	4,241	190	218	5,731	9,544
Year 1952	3,006	8,097	745	1,609	3,844	6,678	135	263	7,730	16,647
Year 1953	2,676	8,417	976	2,657	3,966	8,277	24	54	7,642	19,405
1954 - March Qr.	568	1,895	82	215	970	2,115	1	1	1,621	4,226

BUTTER PRODUCTION IN FACTORIES

519,021 lbs. were produced during May, 1954 and 13,014,706 lbs. for the eleven months ended May, 1954, as against 446,904 lbs. and 13,559,577 lbs. respectively for the corresponding periods for 1953.

GOLD PRODUCTION

	MAY		5 Months Ended MAY	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
Quantity Fine Ozs.	65,828	60,589	364,868	344,826
Value (Aust. Currency)* £.	1,028,564	938,629	5,661,159	5,341,927

* Excludes premium on gold sold for industrial purposes.

Dividends reported by Gold Mining Companies for the five months ended May, 1954 amounted to £493,571. Dividends for the corresponding period of 1953 were £271,775.

RETAIL PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

(Base of Each Series: Weighted Average of Six Capitals for 1923/27 = 1000)

	Food and Groceries				"C" Series			
	MARCH QUARTER		Twelve Months Ended MARCH		MARCH QUARTER		Twelve Months Ended MARCH	
	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
Metropolitan Area	2731	2492	2668	2522	2348	2247	2320	2212
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	2852	2692	2778	2624	2407	2343	2377	2307
Northam	2737	2557	2675	2491	2360	2279	2336	2238
Bunbury	2782	2544	2696	2476	2376	2275	2339	2238
Geraldton	2816	2613	2749	2539	2473	2385	2443	2347
Collie	2804	2580	2727	2500	2265	2172	2235	2130

ESTIMATED TOTAL EMPLOYMENT

(Excluding Rural and Private Domestic)
Figures supplied by Commonwealth Statistician

Month	1953			1954		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
January	127,573	39,805	167,378	133,021	41,620	174,641
February	128,682	40,835	169,517	133,165	42,375	175,540
March	129,232	41,012	170,244	133,341	42,593	175,934
April	129,666	41,211	170,877	133,517	42,811	176,328
May	129,673	41,189	170,862			
June	130,185	41,029	171,214			
July	130,540	41,132	171,672			
August	130,351	41,296	171,647			
September	130,899	41,443	172,342			
October	131,392	41,824	173,216			
November	131,948	42,192	174,140			
December	132,572	42,634	175,206			

INDEX OF FACTORY EMPLOYMENT (a)

Month	<p>FACTORIES</p> <p>(Base: 1928/29 (19,799 Employees = 100))</p>				
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
January	194	208	214	213	223
February	197	212	216	217	223
March	200	215	216	220	225
April	200	215	215	221	224
May	203	216	214	222	
June	202	215	211	220	
July	204	218	211	220	
August	204	217	212	220	
September	204	216	211	220	
October	206	217	212	221	
November	207	217	213	222	
December	207	215	213	223	

(a) Figures subsequent to June, 1953 are preliminary.

STATE BASIC WAGE

Date of Operation	Metropolitan Area			South-West Land Division			Goldfields and Rest of State		
	Male	Female		Male	Female		Male	Female	
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
27/7/53	12. 6. 6	8. 0. 3		12. 6. 0	7. 19. 11		12. 9. 4	8. 2. 1	

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY - METROPOLITAN AREA

(Generated by W.A. Government Power Stations)

Particulars	MAY		Eleven months ended MAY	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
Units Generated (1000 K.W.H.)	35,751	31,154	363,979	318,386
Units Sent Out (1000 K.W.H.)	31,908	27,653	335,896	282,306

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS IN PRINCIPAL ESTABLISHMENTS

Period	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
	No.	No.	No.	No.
May, 1954	12,697	329	62,078	8,431
May, 1953	12,846	377	59,661	7,210
11 Months ended May, 1954	101,961	4,937	979,160	97,331
11 Months ended May, 1953	86,098	5,648	1,290,864	103,605

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

Note - Excludes non-casualty accidents where damage was estimated to be £10 or less.

Period	Non-Casualty Accidents (Damage over £10)		Casualty Accidents		Total Accidents Reported		Persons Killed		Persons Injured	
	Metro-politan	Coun-try	Metro-politan	Coun-try	Metro-politan	Coun-try	Metro-politan	Coun-try	Metro-politan	Coun-try
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Year 1953	4,074	1,463	2,024	882	6,098	2,345	99	93	2,430	1,234
Year 1954 -										
January	312	139	168	62	480	201	5	6	231	100
February	303	120	175	63	478	183	10	8	222	99
March	333	106	206	97	539	203	4	9	263	132
Total Months Ended March, 1954	948	365	549	222	1,497	587	19	23	716	331

